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SECURITY INFORMATION

COUNTRY East GermanyREPORT NO. TOPIC Military Information from the Altengrabow Training AreaEVALUATION 25X1XPLACE OBTAINED

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DATE OF CONTENT

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DATE OBTAINED DATE PREPARED 5 October 1953

REFERENCES

PAGES 2ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

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REMARKS

Document forwarded to Washington

SOURCE

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1. At 8:30 a.m. on 17 September 1953, 10 soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets without branch of service insignia loaded empty ammunition boxes on four gondola cars at the Altengrabow railroad station. Local residents stated that the troop camps were still occupied to capacity and that no major exchange of troop units took place during the last three weeks. At 8:45 a.m., four M-13 rocket launchers went toward Doernitz, coming from the direction of Camp I. Between 10 a.m. and noon, practice firing, presumably involving the abovementioned guns, was heard from the training area. The North Camp, installation No 8, was guarded by troops wearing red-bordered black epaulets with artillery insignia. About 80 troops organized in squads drilled with carbines in the camp. 25X1C
- About 250 to 300 troops received field training and individual groups of soldiers received instruction on machine guns in the training area north of the installation. Sixteen x 122-mm guns and 4 x 152-mm guns were seen at the gun parking lot, installation No 9. About 250 to 300 trucks, 25X1C
- were seen at the motor vehicle parking lot south-west of installation No 8. Only individual soldiers and sentries were seen in the ammunition depot, installation No 4, and the filling station, installation No 5. Aiming and loading of four 76.2-mm field guns was practiced south of the filling station.
2. The small cantonment, 4 km south of Grossbluebars, was occupied by about 100 to 120 troops wearing red-bordered black epaulets with artillery insignia. Source did not observe any vehicles or guns. Source expressed the belief that the troops belonged to a guard unit which had to cordon off the south section of the training area during firing practices with live ammunition. A telephone line extended northeastward toward the troop training grounds and westward to the Loburg-Grossbluebars road where it joined the local telephone system. 25X1C

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3. On 14 September, 1 jeep, 3 trucks, towing two closed trailers, and 1 x 57-mm AT gun and occupied by each 15 to 20 soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets, were seen on the autobahn, proceeding toward Altengrabow via Ziesar, coming from the direction of Berlin. 25X1A
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1. Comment. The information does not indicate any change in the occupation of the Altengrabow training grounds by artillery units of the IV Arty Corps, the Third Shock Army and the Eighth Gds Army over the preceding report by the same source of early August. 25X1A

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2. Comment. confirms the Hq 34th Arty Div (US) from Potsdam until 10 July 1953. 25X1C
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